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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/694,741	10/29/2003	Yutaka Yamana	H9876.0054/P054-A	5402
24998	7590	07/20/2006		
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP 1825 EYE STREET NW Washington, DC 20006-5403			EXAMINER YOO, JASSON H	
			ART UNIT 3714	PAPER NUMBER
DATE MAILED: 07/20/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/694,741

Applicant(s)

YAMANA ET AL.

Examiner

Jasson Yoo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/29/03, 4/12/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pedersen (US 5,862,348).

Pedersen discloses the following:

Claim 13, a network server connected to at least one client through a network, comprising:

a main server (master network information server, col. 2:63-64) for accepting an initial connection request from said client (col. 3:14-23); and

a plurality of sub-servers connected to said client after acceptance by said main server (26, 26' in Fig 1),

wherein said main server provides to said client information relating the sub-servers on acceptance of an initial connection request from said client (col. 3:17-22);

said client is connected with one sub-server based on said information relating to the sub-servers (col. 3:17-22);

said one sub-server provides to said client said information relating to the sub-servers on acceptance of a sub-server connection alteration request from said client [Sub-server may also serve as an information server node, col. 2:64-66. Furthermore all of the sub-servers provide to the client, information relating to the sub-servers on acceptance of a sub-server connection alteration request from the client (depending on the current client's application, the sub-server provide connection request through the master network information server node; col. 3:5-22)]; and

said client connects to another sub-server based on said information relating to the sub-servers (col. 3:17-22).

Claim 14, memory that stores the conditions of said plurality of sub-servers, wherein said main server and said plurality of sub-servers acquire information relating to the sub-servers by accessing said memory (master network information server node inherently has a memory that stores the condition of the plurality of sub-servers; col. 3:5-7, 3:10-13).

Claim 15, each of sub-servers writes its own information to said memory (col. 3:7-10).

Claim 16, a network system comprising: at least one client (col. 3:14); and a network server including a main server (master network information server, col. 2:63-64) that accepts an initial connection request from said client and a plurality of

sub-servers connected to said client after acceptance by said main server (col. 3:14-22),

wherein said main server provides to said client information relating the sub-servers on acceptance of an initial connection request from said client (col. 3:14-22);

said client is connected with one sub-server based on said information relating to the sub-servers (col. 3:14-22);

said one sub-server provides to said client said information relating to the sub-servers on acceptance of a sub-server connection alteration request from said client [Sub-server may also serve as an information server node, col. 2:64-66. Furthermore all of the sub-servers provide to the client, information relating to the sub-servers on acceptance of a sub-server connection alteration request from the client (depending on the current client's application, the sub-server provide connection request through the master network information server node; col. 3:5-22)]; and

said client connects to another sub-server based on said information relating to the sub-servers (col. 3:14-22).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Black et al. (US 6,038,599) discloses a main server (matchmaker server) for accepting an initial connection request from a client, and providing the client information

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relating to a plurality of sub-servers (abstract). The matchmaker server can be one designated server, or a plurality of servers.

Boll et al. (US 5,655,72) discloses a main server (communication interface 24, in Fig. 1) for accepting an initial connection request from a client (12-16, in Fig. 1), and providing the client information relating to a plurality of sub-servers (28-36 in Fig. 1).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jasson Yoo whose telephone number is (571)272-5563. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

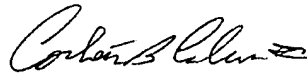
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Olszewski Robert can be reached on (571)272-6788. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

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Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JHY



CORBETT B. COBURN
PRIMARY EXAMINER